GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:142
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
AYURVEDA AND HOMOEOPATHY IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
RENU KUMARI SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some developed countries have shown interest in introducing courses in Ayurveda and Homoeopathy there;

(b) if so, the names of those countries; and

(c) the concrete measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make the Indian system of medicine and Homoeopathy more effective and modern keeping in view its demand in the developed countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 142 FOR 29.11.2000

(a) & (b) The Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, has been approached by institutions in Japan, Australia, Netherlands, Italy and USA for collaboration in the field of Ayurveda. The Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (IPGTRA) of Gujarat Ayurved University (GAU) is fully financed by the Government of India.

In pursuance of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of India and the Government of the Russian Federation, it has been intimated by the Russian Ministry of Health that the Panchakarma therapy is at an advanced stage of recognition in that country. This has been treated as a major step towards recognition of Ayurveda in that country.

Another Ayurvedic therapy, namely, Kshar-Sutra is also being investigated by two institutions in Russia prior to recognition. The Government of the Russian Federation have also sought the services of Ayurvedic doctors to support their efforts.

The Thames Valley University in United Kingdom has also started a degree course in Ayurveda, last October.

The Royal London Homoeopathic Hospital in London, conducts Postgraduate level courses in medical homoeopathy.That qualification is recognized in India under the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to develop and propagate the Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy (ISM & H) which inter-alia include: -

- Assisting the States to upgrade the standards of education in the ISM & H institutions so that the students are exposed to adequate training and clinical material.

- Decision to provide financial support for strengthening the State Drug Testing Laboratories and Pharmacies which will help test the ISM & H drugs and also produce better quality drugs in the Government sector.

- Taking up extensive intra mural and extra-mural research through operational studies as well as clinical trials to determine the efficacy of the drugs.

- Establishing a Medicinal Plants Board to improve the availability and quality of raw material used in the formulations of ISM & H drugs.

- Notification of Good Manufacturing Practices for industry and development of Pharmacopoeial standards for the ISM & H drugs.

- Participation in Seminars and Conferences in different countries to increase awareness about the systems and what they can offer in respect of present health concerns and priorities.

- Dissemination of relevant information about the systems and how to access it on the Department`s Web-site.